

## Doctor Warns of Dangers From Defective Heaters

Roy O. Gilbert, M.D., Los Angeles County Health Officer

The weather has been unusually warm of late, but it probably will not be long before chilly weather is here again. Subsequently, deaths due to carbon monoxide gas poisoning, which most generally results from faulty heating units, will no doubt occur. It is therefore advisable to make sure that all such units, as well as other gas-operated household appliances, are operating properly.

Although unvented heaters are most often the cause of such fatalities, they occasionally occur in the case of vented heaters when the vent is not functioning properly or is not vented to the outdoors.

It is only in the last few years that the operation of unvented gas heaters has become contrary to law. Landlords can now be made criminally responsible if a tenant meets death through the operation of such a heater. However, there is no such control over the heaters in single dwelling units. The responsibility rests with the householder.

All cases of gas poisoning that are caused by improperly operating gas appliances are unnecessary, since all such equipment can easily be checked for safe burning characteristics before use. This service may be obtained from various gas com-

panies or from a local gas appliance store. It is especially important to have this examination made if the heater happens to be second hand or has been in storage for the summer months. Forced air heaters and other vented units that heat with gas should also be maintained properly in order to remain safe.

At this same time any existing vents can be checked for blockage or leakage, and a check also made to ascertain whether or not the heater is vented to the outside and not to another room or the attic.

Cracked or broken radiants should be replaced, and it is also important that they remain in proper position at all times during heating. It is also advisable to make certain that the heater is connected to the gas supply with an approved metal tubing.

The first symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are usually headache, a feeling of grogginess, and shortness of breath on exertion. When such symptoms are noticed in circumstances which point to the possibility of a carbon monoxide hazard, fresh air should be sought immediately.

For quick and best results, call your ad in to Press classified at FA 8-2345.

## Lloyd Rowe New Wagon Wheels Prexy

Lloyd Rowe was elected president of the Wagon Wheels of Lomita at the club's recent meeting. Serving with him will be Angel Flannigan, vice president; Francine Sztatowski, secretary; Pat Blackford, treasurer; Richard Tooley, sheriff; Floyd Phillips, deputy and Sharon Corhn, historian.

A square dance jamboree and carnival will be held next Saturday from 2 to 6:30 p.m. at Alondra Park in Lawndale.

Dancing at 25c per person and booths will be sponsored by the Club.

"The Mavericks," Nobel Spees, newly organized adult club held its first official dance Friday at the Torrance Woman's Clubhouse.

## New Unemployment Laws Will Boost Benefits to Employees to U.S. Top

By Assemblyman Vincent Thomas Graphic evidence of the impact of inflation on our California economy is given by the changes made by the 1959 Legislature in our state unemployment and disability insurance laws. Benefits for workers who become unemployed or suffer off-the-job disabilities were upped, but so were the employer taxes which pay for the unemployment insurance system.

Three major laws were enacted to make these changes. Two relate to jobless pay, the third to disability insurance.

Starting September 18 the maximum weekly unemployment insurance payment for workers who qualify will be increased from the

current \$40 to \$55. This will give California workers the highest weekly maximum in the nation, and is close to double the amount secured in any previous legislative session in the past 15 years. The highest increase in unemployment benefits previously was \$7.

To offset the cost of paying these more liberal benefits, the same law makes two different kind of changes in the tax provisions, both of which mean higher costs for California employers.

The first, which goes into effect next January 1, raises the tax "base" by which taxes are measured from the present \$3000 per year to \$3600, thus upping employers' taxes by roughly 20 per cent. The second, effective January 1, 1961, replaces the present zero tax rate for employers with good employment records by a new minimum rate of three tenths

of one per cent of payroll, and increases the present top rate from 2.7 per cent to 3 per cent of payroll.

On the basis of preliminary estimates, an addition of about \$50 million per year will be paid in jobless benefits under the new law. The increased costs to employers under the two changes referred to has been fixed at somewhere near \$60 million per year.

The second unemployment compensation bill writes permanently into our California law a provision for extended jobless compensation similar to the temporary program of the federal government which was started in 1958. The new system would be financed by a new tax levied on all employers subject to the law, payable in addition to their regular unemployment insurance taxes. At the same time, California employers will have to repay approximately \$56 million to cover benefits paid under the federal

government's temporary unemployment insurance program, in effect from July, 1958.

When the new law goes into effect this September, a worker who has used up all the benefits due him under the regular jobless benefit program will be able to

qualify for additional weekly benefits if the rate of unemployment in the state exceeds a ratio set in the act at the time he files his claim. Up to thirteen weeks of benefits will be payable at the worker's regular weekly amount.

Use Press classified, FA 8-2345.

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Your Favorite Shrub in a New Spreading Form  
CHOICE OF **REG. \$1.50**  
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Reg. 8-oz. Pies **\$1.00**

OH BOY • Real Italian Style  
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